

## MINNESOTA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

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July 27, 2009

To All Persons on the Service List

BY U.S. MAIL AND eSERVICE

RE: In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power

Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for Authority to Increase Rates for

Electric Service in Minnesota

PUC Docket No. E-002/GR-08-1065 OAH Docket No. 3-2500-20148-2

As of July 1, 2009, eService is available through the PUC/Commerce eFiling system. The official service list for the above dockets is now available through the system. OAH will not continue to separately eFile service lists into the system. Anyone wishing to file or serve a document in this docket must obtain the offiicial service list from the eService system. The party filing must log in to the system through the web at: <a href="https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/security/login.do?method=showLogin">https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/security/login.do?method=showLogin</a> Immediately after you log in, an introductory screen will display an overview of the system. The service list is available after identification of the docket and prior to the upload of the document(s) to be filed and served.

Where the filer chooses to have eService provide electronic service of the filed document, the system will provide an email with a link to each filed document. For those who receive paper service, rather than eService to to persons on the eService list, the system provides the option to print mailing labels (or export the mailing information in a variety of formats). Where trade secret documents are being filed and served, the mailing list option includes the notation TS on those labels where service of trade secret documents is authorized.

The default for all new service lists is to not authorize access to trade secret documents, except for State employees who are governed by the Minnesota Data Practices Act. A Protective Order has been issued in this matter and those persons

OAH has determined to have executed the required Exhibit A to the Protective Order have been designated to receive trade secret documents (either by paper service or by logging in through eDockets).

For those who have submitted an executed Exhibit A but do not have your status regarding trade secret data properly designated on the service list, please contact Staff Attorney Michael Lewis by telephone or email (651-361-7840 or <a href="Michael.Lewis@state.mn.us">Michael.Lewis@state.mn.us</a>). Please include the unique document number of the eFiled Exhibit A with your inquiry.

There is one aspect of eService that does not comport with the existing contested case service process. In the contested case process, a person can receive both paper and email service of documents. Under eService, only one option (paper or electronic) is available. Any party receiving paper service is encouraged to subscribe to the docket to obtain electronic notification of filing in addition to the paper copy that will be served by the filer. Subscription is available through the eDockets system at: <a href="https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/subscription/createSubscription.do?method=subscribeNew">https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/subscription/createSubscription.do?method=subscribeNew</a>

Using eService does not change the filer's obligation to provide proof of service to the service list. Where possible, the service list generated by the system should be appended to the affidavit of service and eFiled together with the document being served and filed. An example accompanies this letter. Where incorporation into a single document is not technically feasible, a separate eFiling of the service affidavit and attached list is permissible.

The introduction of new technologies at the Commission, the Department of Commerce, and OAH are causing changes in long-standing practices in contested case proceedings. The goal of these changes is to provide a process that is more transparent and ultimately easier to use. Your patience is appreciated as these changes are incorporated into our filing and hearing processes.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael W. Lewis

MICHAEL W. LEWIS Staff Attorney

Telephone: 651-361-7840

**Enclosure** 

## STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS ADMINISTRATIVE LAW SECTION P. O. BOX 64620 ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55164-0620

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Case Title: In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company d/b/a Xcel Energy for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota PUC Docket No. E-002/GR-08-1065 OAH Docket No. 3-2500-20148-2

Michael Lewis certifies that on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009, he served a true and correct copy of the **attached letter**; by eFiling, and U.S. Mail, (in the manner indicated below) to the following individuals:



